

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-22 are considered in the Office action.

Claims 1, 2, 8-13 and 19-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over applicant's disclosed prior art and Yano U.S. Patent No. 5,798,720.

Claims 3-7 and 14-18 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21 and 22 have been objected to because of various informalities.

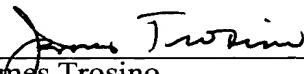
Reply

Applicant has amended claims 1, 4-7, 12, 15, 17-18 and 21-22 and has cancelled claims 2-3 and 13-14 without prejudice. In particular, applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3, and has amended claim 12 to include the limitations of claims 13 and 14. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 1, 4-12 and 15-22.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, applicant submits that this application, including claims 1, 4-12 and 15-22, is allowable. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner allow this application.

Respectfully submitted,



James Trosino
Registration No. 39,862
Attorney for Applicant